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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 845
By Hargrove

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Cookeville High School Varsity Cavalier Academic Bowl Team on winning the 2001-2002 Tennessee High School State Academic Bowl Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those exemplary youth organizations, and their individual members who, through their hard work and unwavering commitment, have achieved excellence in academics and extracurricular activities and are credits to their respective schools and communities, and to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding organization is the Cookeville High School Varsity Cavalier Academic Bowl Team, who in this year's competitive season won first place in the 2001-2002 Tennessee High School State Academic Bowl Championship, held at Tennessee Tech University on March 22-13, 2002; and

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WHEREAS, under the astute guidance of their coach, Ms. Carolyn Hawkins, the Cavalier Academic Team has secured the State Academic Bowl Championship title three times in the last six years; and

WHEREAS, the Cookeville High School Academic Team persevered and emerged triumphant despite rigorous competition from fifteen other High School Academic Teams from Middle, East, and West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the accomplished members of the 2001-2002 Tennessee High School State Academic Bowl Championship Team, Sam Matson, Senior/Captain; Bobby Liu, Junior/Captain; Funmi Ojo, Sophomore; Matt Lynn, Junior; Josh Bohannon, Junior; and Tyler Pannell, Junior, set a new record for the most points ever scored in the Tennessee High School State Academic Bowl Championship Tournament by amassing a total of 7,805 team points; and

WHEREAS, Senior Captain Sam Matson displayed his remarkable academic prowess as the top individual overall scorer in the tournament by achieving an extraordinary 760 points; and

WHEREAS, to date the Cavalier Academic Team has secured 1st Place honors in 7 Academic Quiz Bowl Competitions during the 2001-2002 academic year, achieving an overall record of 123 wins versus only 10 losses; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2001, the Cavalier Academic Team won the Brookwood Scholars Bowl, the largest high school academic quiz bowl competition in the nation, claiming 1st place from among the 138 teams representing 79 schools from 9 states; and

WHEREAS, the Cavalier Academic Team also won the 2001-2002 Upper Cumberland Academic Bowl, which was sponsored by the local PBS television station, WCTE-TV; this victory was their 11th overall in the 16 years that the PBS tournament has been in existence, and also marked the 7th year in a row that the Cookeville team has won the competition without losing a single game in the tournament; and

WHEREAS, four outstanding members of the Cavalier Academic Team, Bobby Liu, Tyler Pannell, Andrew Semmes, and Suman Natarajan, also competed in, and won, the 2001-2002 Tennessee High School State Science Bowl Competition; and

WHEREAS, many of the exemplary members of the Cavalier Academic Team, including Jonathan Dyer, John Glasgow, Chase Lovellette, Sam Matson, Kristen Mitchell, Andrew Semmes, Jonathan Uhles, Amy Vickers, Noel Barnard, Josh Bohannon, Monica Duling, Kristen Gunderson, Bobby Liu, Matt Lynn, Suman Natarajan, Tyler Pannell, Seth Magdalena, Funmi Ojo, Will Smith, Lee Nutini, and Bethany Wilson competed in, and captured, the 2001 Knowledge Master Open State Championship Computer Quiz Bowl; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2001, members of the Cavalier Academic Team competed in the 2001 Fall Knowledge Master Open National Computer Academic Bowl sponsored by Academic Hallmarks of Durango, Colorado; they placed 9th in the Nation against 1,007 other high school academic quiz bowl teams and 1st in Tennessee against 15 other schools by scoring a grand total of 1,728 points and answering 193 of 200 questions correctly; and

WHEREAS, the dynamic Cavalier Academic Team has accepted invitations to represent Cookeville High School, Putnam County, and Tennessee in the 2002 Partnership for Academic Excellence National Scholastic Competition in Washington D.C. and the 16th Annual American Scholastic Competition Network Tournament of Champions in Chicago, where they currently hold a 3rd Place National ranking from the 2000-2001 ASCN tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Cavalier Academic Team's significant accomplishments are a tremendous source of pride and delight for their families, their school, and their community; and

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of this legislative body to acknowledge and applaud the Cookeville High School Varsity Cavalier Academic Bowl Team for their sterling achievements in scholastic competition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate the Cookeville High School Varsity Cavalier Academic Bowl Team on winning the 2001-2002 Tennessee High School State Academic Bowl Championship, commend their hard work and dedication, applaud their many significant competitive accomplishments during the 2001-2002 academic year, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.